

ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION POLICY TO STABILIZE CLIMATE CHANGE IN UZBEKISTAN.

Babaeva Irodakhon

PhD student at UWED Phone: +998 99 789 90 58

Annotation: *The article considers domestic measures taken in the Republic of Uzbekistan to adapt to the consequences of climate change. It analyzes the existing strategies, legal framework and institutional mechanisms aimed at increasing resilience to climate change.*

Key words: *climate change, adaptation, Uzbekistan, sustainability, water resources, UN, UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, NDC.*

Аннотация: *В статье рассматриваются внутренние меры, принимаемые в Республике Узбекистан для адаптации к последствиям изменения климата. Анализируются существующие стратегии, нормативно-правовая база и институциональные механизмы, направленные на повышение устойчивости к климатическим изменениям.*

Ключевые слова: *изменение климата, адаптация, Узбекистан, устойчивость, водные ресурсы, ООН, РКИК, Парижское Соглашение, ОНУВ.*


Annotatsiya: *Maqolada O'zbekiston Respublikasida iqlim o'zgarishi oqibatlariga moslashish uchun ko'rilayotgan ichki chora-tadbirlar ko'rib chiqiladi. Iqlim o'zgarishiga chidamlilikni oshirishga qaratilgan mavjud strategiyalar, normativ-huquqiy baza va institutsional mexanizmlar tahlil qilingan.*

Kalit so'zlar: *iqlim o'zgarishi, moslashuv, O'zbekiston, barqarorlik, suv resurslari, BMT, BMTDK, Parij bitimi, Milliy Darajada Belgilanadigan Hissa (MDBH)*

Today, the world community has recognized that Climate Change is one of the serious challenges facing humanity. Climate Change affects all spheres of human life and requires immediate measures to prevent negative consequences and adapt to new living conditions. Modern science provides increasingly strong evidence that human economic activity, primarily associated with greenhouse gas emissions from the burning of fossil fuels, has a significant impact on the climate.

Global Climate Change is one of the most serious problems of our time, which affects all countries of the world and is becoming a significant obstacle to sustainable development. The observed warming is causing extreme natural phenomena around the world, such as droughts, hurricanes, heat waves, fires, heavy rains and floods.





Uzbekistan and other Central Asian states are among the countries most prone to environmental cataclysms. The greatest increase in air temperature is expected in the Aral Sea region, which will be further exacerbated by local Climatic Changes.

Uzbekistan is categorized as one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change. A further increase in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, according to experts, will lead to increased risks of water and food¹ shortages as a result of drought, increased morbidity of the population due to increased duration and intensity of the hot season, as well as the recurrence of other dangerous phenomena - mudflows, floods, etc. In addition, warming will have a negative impact on the state of ecosystems and will lead to aggravation of the environmental situation in such regions as Priaralie, Karakalpakstan, Surkhandarya, Bukhara and Khorezm provinces.

According to World Bank experts, if by the end of the 21st century, if the average global temperature rises by 4 degrees Celsius at the current rate, this figure will be 7 degrees in Central Asia. As a result of global climate change over the last 50-60 years, the area of glaciers in the region has decreased by about 30%. Up to 2050, water resources in the SyrDarya basin are expected to decrease by up to 5% and in the Amu Darya basin by up to 15%. By 2050, the lack of fresh water in Central Asia may lead to a drop in GDP in the region by 11%.

Global climate change and the sensitivity of the country's natural resource complex to the ongoing changes determines the need for a coherent climate policy.


The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the basis for international action to combat climate change, aimed at achieving stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic impacts on the climate system. Uzbekistan joined the UNFCCC in 1993. Uzhydromet is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the UNFCCC in Uzbekistan.

In 1999, Uzbekistan ratified the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement that committed developed countries to reduce or stabilize greenhouse gas emissions. To strengthen a comprehensive response to the increased global threats posed by climate change, the Paris Agreement was adopted in December 2015, replacing the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC. The Paris Agreement entered into force in 2020. Uzbekistan signed the Paris Agreement on April 19, 2017, and ratified it on November 2, 2018. The Law of RUz "On Ratification of the Paris Agreement" adopted on October 2, 2018. The Agreement entered into force for Uzbekistan on December 9, 2018.

The goal of the Paris Agreement is to enhance implementation of the UNFCCC, to keep the rise in global average temperature below 2°C relative to pre-industrial levels

¹





(1750), and to make efforts to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C, which will require reducing global GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emissions by 40-70% by 2050 and achieving zero or negative GHG emission rates by 2100.

A prerequisite for signing the Paris Agreement is to prepare and report to the FCCC Secretariat the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to GHG emission reductions that the country intends to achieve by 2030.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are the primary mechanism for national efforts to contribute to the global goals of the Paris Agreement.

Uzbekistan's key commitment under the Paris Agreement until 2021 was to reduce specific greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP by 10% by 2030. In 2021, Uzbekistan increased its quantitative commitments under the Paris Agreement (INDC) and intends to reduce specific greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP by 35% by 2030 from the 2010 level, instead of the previously envisioned 10%. The revised NDC also strengthens adaptation measures, particularly in agriculture. The country is also working to align its NDC with its Strategy for Transition to Green Economy by 2030.

Uzbekistan's INDC includes mitigation and adaptation measures and actions for the period up to 2030. The activities to implement the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) are active and contribute significantly to the development of Uzbekistan's economy. In addition, according to Articles 4.1. and 12.1. of the UNFCCC, country Parties are obliged to periodically submit their National Communications on Climate Change, which is the country's report on the process of implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. The National Communication is a detailed overview of national measures and actions aimed at mitigation, adaptation, capacity building, technology development and transfer, education and awareness raising of different social strata of the population.

On September 19, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City on the 78th session of the UN General Assembly the President of Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev delivered a speech.

Pointing to the acute environmental situation and the intensification of the triple planetary crisis caused by climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution, the President noted that Central Asia is becoming one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change.

Uzbekistan's efforts to eliminate the consequences of the Aral Sea tragedy, data on the negative impact of climate change in our region and the trend of decreasing water availability were presented.

The President came up with initiative to establish the Central Asian Climate Dialogue, -to adopt the United Nations General Assembly resolution entitled "Central Asia





Facing Global Climate Threats: Solidarity for Shared Prosperity. It was emphasized that the strategic task remains the adaptation of the main sectors of Uzbekistan's economy to climate change, achieving carbon neutrality and radically increasing the share of "green" energy.

Also, Uzbekistan supported the establishment of the post of Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Water Resources, the creation of the Platform for Water-Saving Technologies in Central Asia and the establishment of systemic cooperation within the framework of the Green Development Program adopted in the region.

In the "Strategy of Development of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026" which is a logical continuation of the "Strategy of actions on five priority directions of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021", adopted by the President of Uzbekistan Sh. M. Mirziyoyev, the sixth section is dedicated to the topic "National interest approach to global challenges" (goals 79-81).

This section includes the implementation of a number of specific measures aimed at strengthening the country's position on Climate Change and ecological issues. In particular, goal #79 determines to prevent existing environmental problems harmful to the health and gene pool of population, one of the aims set the improvement of mechanisms for assessing the level of environmental pollution, observation of the environment, forecasting of the level of pollution, continuous provision of information for state environmental control, monitoring of polluting sources and their impact on environment. Goal #80 states the protection of ecology and environment, improvement of ecological condition of cities and districts, realization of the nationwide project "Green Edge"². Along with this, the state program of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2023 provides the development and implementation of a number of measures aimed at the effective application of "GSP+" system in foreign trade economic relations of Uzbekistan.³


Also, it should be noted that for the successful realization of the Sustainable Development Goals syuda nado hyperlink the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the Decree on the strategy "Uzbekistan -2030". The first article of this decree notes the main five ideas of the Strategy, where it is noted that until 2030 it is important to create favorable environmental conditions for the population. To realize this idea, two major goals have been developed. The first goal is devoted to reforms in the water sector, and the second one to reforms in environmental protection.

Reforms in the water sector include: improving the culture of rational water use and efficiency of water consumption in the republic, ensuring rational water use in the agricultural sector, developing the irrigation system and water-saving technologies, broad

² <https://lex.uz/docs/5841077>

³ <https://lex.uz/docs/5841077>





introduction of the private sector and public-private partnership mechanisms into the management of the sphere, and reducing electricity consumption by pumping stations within the framework of the wide introduction of "Green Energy" technologies.

The following goals are set in environmental protection: cardinal improvement of the environmental situation in the Republic, elimination of environmental problems affecting human life, expansion of the nationwide project "Yashil Makon" aimed at stabilizing the environmental situation. Within the framework of this goal, it is planned to plant 200 million tree seedlings annually and bring the level of greening of the Republic up to 30 percent of trees. Creation of 1,984 green gardens, including 112 large industrial enterprises on their own and adjacent territories within three years "green belts" of 30 million saplings. The next goal is aimed at expanding the area of forests. This measure is necessary to preserve land from erosion and reclamation facilities from sand runoff.

Thus, nowadays Uzbekistan has done a lot to meet mitigation and adaptation norms to eliminate the climate change consequences. Nevertheless, a lot of work should be done and now it's clear that by reducing the anthropogenic impact to the climate change there is no guarantee that the situation in Central Asia will be stabilized.

